

**P A T E N T**  
Docket No. 514572000100

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-22 and 24-47 are pending in the present application. Claim 23 and 48-54 were canceled. By virtue of this response, claims 1, 11-14 and 24 have been amended, and claims 10, 19-23 and 25 have been canceled. Claim 55 is added. Accordingly, claims 1-9, 11-18, 24, 26-47 and 55 are currently under consideration. Support for the amendments of claim 1 and new claim 55 is found in the specification on, *inter alia*, page 11, line 31 through page 12, line 7; page 21, lines 2-5; and Figures 1 and 2.

With respect to all claim amendments and cancellations, Applicants have not dedicated or abandoned any unclaimed subject matter and moreover have not acquiesced to any rejections and/or objections made by the Patent Office. Applicants reserve the right to pursue prosecution of any presently excluded claim embodiments in future continuation and/or divisional application.

It is the undersigned's understanding, from the August 13, 2003 telephonic interview, that the present claim amendments resolve all outstanding issues. Early allowance of the pending claims 1-9, 11-18, 24, 26-47 and 55 are earnestly requested. If, however, the Examiner believes that three are still unaddressed issues, the undersigned would like to have another telephonic interview to discuss such issues.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this

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document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 514572000100. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 14, 2003

By: 

Peng Chen

Registration No. 43,543

Morrison & Foerster LLP

3811 Valley Centre Drive, Suite 500

San Diego, California 92130-2332

Telephone: (858) 720-5117

Facsimile: (858) 720-5125